

FALL + WINTER 2019

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CITY OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT MAGAZINE



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GREETINGS FROM YOUR NEW MAYOR

Quinton Lucas

What an honor it is to serve our community as the 55th mayor of Kansas City. There's an exciting, optimistic buzz surrounding our city and I look forward to working together as we continue building a Kansas City that works for all of our residents – regardless of zip code. Thank you all for sending your thoughts, prayers and well-wishes as we begin this journey.

Already, we're hard at work and are focused on improving public safety, increasing regional economic collaboration, providing affordable housing and transportation, and prioritizing basic city services. I'm committed to ensuring that all Kansas Citians, no matter where they live, can be proud of their neighborhood and of the investments that City Hall is making into their community.

Central to this mission is ensuring that every family in Kansas City can afford a home where they can safely raise a family on a budget, which is why I created the City's Special Committee on Housing Policy to craft policy solutions that will help families of all income levels find safe and sanitary homes.

As a member of the Kansas City Board of Police Commissioners, I am working to ensure that our law enforcement officers have the resources they need to do their jobs effectively. It's also imperative that our police force be representative of the diverse nature of Kansas City, and I am working with local leaders to continue building a diverse and well-trained police force.

We're also working to rejuvenate abandoned buildings and promote business growth in traditionally underrepresented areas of our city to help create jobs and economic growth.

I hope that throughout my term you'll remain engaged with City Hall, attend City Council meetings and let me know how you think we're doing or what's keeping you up at night. You can reach my office by phone at 816-513-3500, by email at MayorQ@kcmo.org, or you can find me on Twitter @QuintonLucasKC, where I mostly talk about our city and the Chiefs.

Talk soon!



MAYOR QUINTON LUCAS

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ON THE COVER: This season's cover story features Kate Delehunt and Lara Isch, City employees at the Water Department, in their element educating local Kansas City students about our city's water. Before the first drop and final flush, students get to learn about the large and mostly hidden infrastructure that makes sure this essential, life-giving element is safe for human health and the environment. **FLIP TO PAGE 05** to read the story!

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A PUBLICATION of the
City Communications Office
City of Kansas City, Missouri

YOUR NEW

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A new mantra for Kansas City

WRITTEN BY: *Tamela Handie*

PHOTOS BY: *Karen Lim*

Kansas City has a new Mayor and six new faces joining its 13-member City Council. These new faces will bring new voices to the council and create a unique, legislative culture that will invariably put a different spin on the familiar phrase, "Our Kansas City."

We posed three thought-provoking questions to council members, seeking to go beyond the boundaries of their respective council districts. Here's what they told us:

1. "Our Kansas City" is a familiar phrase. What's your vision for "Our Kansas City?"
2. What advice would you give to your 21-year-old self?
3. After your term ends, what do you want people to say about you?

HEATHER HALL, First District

As I embark on my second term, I am encouraged to see emerging business, booming tourism, and better educational opportunities for our youth whether it be advanced education, vocational training or law enforcement and military

careers. My vision for Kansas City is that we are a City where our youth want to grow up to be successful, productive, thriving KC residents.

Today, I see things a lot different than I did when I was 21. I would remind my 21-year-old self to work hard, be kind and learn from my choices so I can make a positive difference in the lives of others.

Four years will be gone in a flash, so it is essential that I finish what I started. I will work to keep my promises to my constituents and strive to make the 1st District better than when I took office. Those promises include, building a fire station, adding more police officers, building sidewalks to schools, supporting local businesses, making KC inclusive for all and finding jobs for all who are looking for work. Most of all, I pray to be kind, civil and honest in all I do for all the people of Kansas City.

KEVIN O'NEILL,
First District at-Large

As a Northland resident and fifth generation Kansas City resident, I want to eliminate the borders in our city. We have the river that separates

north from south. We have a state line that separated Kansas from Missouri and, for too many years, we have had Troost that symbolizes the separation of black from white. We are one city that should live together without borders.

To my 21-year-old self: Quit trying to be who others expect you to be. Before you go looking for love, learn how to love yourself and be strong enough to stick to your convictions. And lastly, embrace your youth because age will come quickly enough. You are going to have great kids, great jobs, and your future is bright. Stop making bad decisions and grow up and be an adult quicker than I did.

I hope that at the end of my term people will say he always stuck to his beliefs. He was able to balance his protection of workers and keep in mind the importance of economic development. He treated everyone the same from the CEOs to the janitors.

ERIC BUNCH, 4th District

Our Kansas City ought to be a place where world class parks, high quality schools and healthy foods are an



easy and safe walk from every front door. I envision a city where a good job is a quick bus, bike or streetcar ride away. And housing options along those public transit routes are abundant and affordable.

Eric at 21: You're probably going to struggle to figure out your path and that's totally okay. You've got good ideas, surround yourself with people who can help you implement them. Get to know what your strengths are, but more importantly, know what strengths you lack.

In four (hopefully eight) years I hope people will remember me as a person who was a collaborative and energetic policymaker, always willing to work for the greater good, not political expediency.

RYANA PARKS-SHAW,
Fifth District

My vision of "Our Kansas City" is a city where everyone lives in a safe and healthy community, where residents have everything they need in their neighborhood. I want "Our Kansas City" to be a place where your zip code doesn't dictate your life expectancy. Instead "Our Kansas City" is a hub for small businesses; a

place where everyone has access to opportunities and feels welcomed.

I would tell my 21-year-old self to always trust your intuition and to trust yourself and to trust enough to take risks. The road to success is built on your failures; use them as stepping stones for a better and brighter future.

I would like for people to remember me as a transparent, honest, and hardworking councilwoman. I want residents to call me a true voice of the people, that I listened to their concerns and responded to any issues that they may have experienced. I want people to know that I fought for what was right for Kansas City and that I always had their best interests in mind when making decisions. In addition, I want to be remembered for my work on issues like taking creative approaches to reducing crime, making our communities healthier places to live and supportive of small business owners.

ANDREA BOUGH,
Sixth District at-Large

My vision of "Our Kansas City" is one in which we ensure that Kansas City

is and remains a great place to live, work and raise a family for all Kansas Citians. We must work together as a City, as well as civic, business, faith-based, and educational communities to address the needs and issues that our City faces. We must celebrate our accomplishments collectively and collaborate to solve our problems.

I would tell my 21-year-old self to be bold. As young women especially, we are often inhibited by our fear of failing. Take that first step. You may succeed, or you may stumble. Either way, you will be moving forward. Often we learn just as much from our mistakes and failures as we do from our successes.

At the end of my term, I want people to say that I listened to their concerns and opinions as we created a better place for all to live. For those in declining neighborhoods, I want constituents to be able to see a more stable and sustainable community that we worked together to grow. It is also my goal to be known for working collaboratively with my colleagues to implement a plan to reduce crime and to improve the quality of life for our residents.



Educating our future

WRITTEN BY: *Lara Isch*

PHOTOS BY: *Karen Lim*

Turn a tap, and clean water comes out. Open a drain, and used water returns to the river. But before the first drop and final flush, a large and mostly hidden infrastructure makes sure this essential life-giving element is safe for human health and the environment.

To help residents understand how that works, the KC Water education team conducts classroom lessons, environmental stewardship outreach, and partnership programs citywide.

Working with schools and environmental groups located throughout the City, the team explains how KC Water manages the constant flow of water from the Missouri River and back again. Thousands of miles of pipes and dozens of pumps move the water throughout the City. Treatment plants ensure not only that customers receive clean, delicious water, but also that wastewater returned to the river meets federal and state clean water standards.

Stormwater in Kansas City is a different story. KC Water maintains pipes, levees and storm drains, but it takes a city of people to keep stormwater clean. Most storm drains in Kansas City lead directly to creeks, streams and rivers.

Anything on the ground, from litter to chemicals, can be washed down a storm drain and into the nearest creek or stream.

Every drop of rain that falls in Kansas City can possibly become someone's drinking water.

KC Water takes a "One Water" approach to educating Kansas City's youth and adults. In school education programs are always hands-on and start as early as kindergarten, where students meet Freddy the Fish.

Freddy lives in a nearby stream affected by common pollutants found in stormwater. As he travels downstream, he passes factories, parking lots, construction sites and residential areas. Students pour food-grade items into the jar with Freddy, a sponge shaped like a fish, to represent pollutants such as fertilizer (grape drink powder), oil (soy sauce), litter (paper dots), and dirt from erosion (cocoa powder).

Most classroom education is conducted by KC Water's Kate Delehunt, a former teacher with a passion for water quality.

"I love the "WOW" factor when students finally understand how pollution travels to creeks, streams and rivers," Delehunt said. "Bringing a hands-on lesson in which they can see the effects of pollution on water quality offers the students opportunities to become educated about and engaged in finding solutions to local water quality problems."

Stormwater pollution is also one

of the main points discussed with fifth-grade students in the "Journey of Stormwater: KC to the Sea" curriculum. This award-winning program, taught to more than 4,500 students per year across 10 Kansas City school districts, also explains the "horizontal water cycle," or how water travels from the river to homes and back to the river.

"If you ask a fifth grader where drinking water comes from, their answer is usually 'the store' or 'the water factory,'" Delehunt said. "The responses you get once they realize they could be drinking water today that someone in Omaha, Neb., used only a few weeks ago, are always interesting."

Once students are inspired to make a difference in the classroom, they can volunteer for one of KC Water's many stewardship opportunities. The KC Water Warriors, a registered Missouri Stream Team, works with students, Scout troops, civic and religious organizations to clean up creeks and streams citywide, removing more than 3,400 pounds of trash in 2018.

For those who want to make a difference closer to home, KC Water will supply materials to mark storm drains with "No Dumping" medallions or provide an educator to discuss stormwater management at neighborhood or civic group meetings. Together, we can protect Kansas City's water resources for future generations.

For more information about KC Water's education programs and volunteer opportunities, visit **KCWATER.US/EDUCATION.**



Kansas City Museum restoration races to impressive start

WRITTEN BY: *Rod Richardson*

PHOTO BY: *Karen Lim*

The first stage of the \$22 million Kansas City Museum renovation is not only visually striking, but it's also remarkably transformative. And even that elevated statement of praise may be putting it mildly.

Stage one was recently completed, creating a gorgeous Corinthian Hall adorned with marble, plaster and wood restoration, new galleries, amenities and updated programming space. Closed since 2017, the great hall is reborn as a fully-functioning, fully-modern museum that is sure to leave visitors feeling slightly giddy but almost certain to come back for more.

The multi-staged project will look something like this:

- The lower level of Corinthian Hall includes an architecturally-restored billiards room, a new interpretation of the museum's former, beloved "soda fountain," public restrooms, kitchen facilities, and spaces for administrative functions.

- The first floor of Corinthian Hall now has preserved, restored, recreated and rehabilitated rooms that will be used for programs, events, interpretive history exhibits and contemporary thematic art installations. The first floor will also have a Museum Retail Store, and a Museum Café and Demonstration Kitchen.
- The second floor includes renovated exhibit galleries that showcase historical materials from the Museum's permanent collection, and a meeting room/ education space for community use and board meetings.
- The third floor will include exhibit galleries, a theater/auditorium, and an interactive space for sharing stories.

This public-private restoration was funded with \$8 million from GO KC, a voter-approved \$800 million capital improvements program to remake the city's infrastructure over the next 20 years. Another \$8 million came from the KC Museum Levy, while private donations totaled about \$6 million raised by the Kansas City Museum Foundation.

"The Kansas City Museum is the first public buildings project to be completed under the GO KC initiative, and that is a major accomplishment for our city," said Parks and Recreation Director Terry Rynard. "It has taken a tremendous amount of work to architecturally transform Corinthian Hall into a 21st-century museum."

The mansion was built in 1910 as the Beaux-Arts style estate of lumber baron Robert Alexander Long, his wife Ella, and daughters Sallie America Long Ellis and Loula Long Combs. Long earned a fortune in the lumber industry and was fiercely passionate about the construction of his home in Northeast Kansas City, which included moving three existing houses off the property to vacant lots adjacent to his parcel.

When Long died in 1934, his two daughters held an auction that same year, selling most of their parents' belongings. The house sat vacant until late 1939 when Sallie and Loula donated the mansion, buildings and property to the Kansas City Museum Association for use in perpetuity as a public museum.

The Kansas City Museum opened its doors to approximately 4,500 visitors in May 1940.

The interior restoration left nothing to chance, with every detail given the most meticulous consideration. Well, that same care is going into putting the exhibits back into place, which is why visitors won't be roaming these hallowed halls until late 2020.

Phase two will include improvements to the Carriage House and Caretaker's Home. Meanwhile, it will still operate at the historic Garment District, an exhibition and programming space at 800 Broadway Blvd.

To learn more, visit

KANSASCITYMUSEUM.ORG.

KCMO videographer taking us back to the future

WRITTEN BY: *Colleen Doctorian*

PHOTOS BY: *Karen Lim*



What many people call basic city services are more than basic for KCMO employees and program managers. Informing residents about the many programs we operate is an invigorating task that the City Communications Office works hard at every day in a serious, responsible kind of way.

Videographer Damon Smith created the Channel 2 program "City Works" in the early 2000s, and last year he decided it was time to focus on City services and programs once again. Each "Then and Now" segment shows how services like meter reading, illegal dumping and the lead-testing program helped residents then, as well as today. It also shows how these programs have improved the City by using data to sharpen the results.

The City Communications Office provides relevant and timely information that will benefit your

daily lives because it helps the department tackle issues you probably will never have to consider.

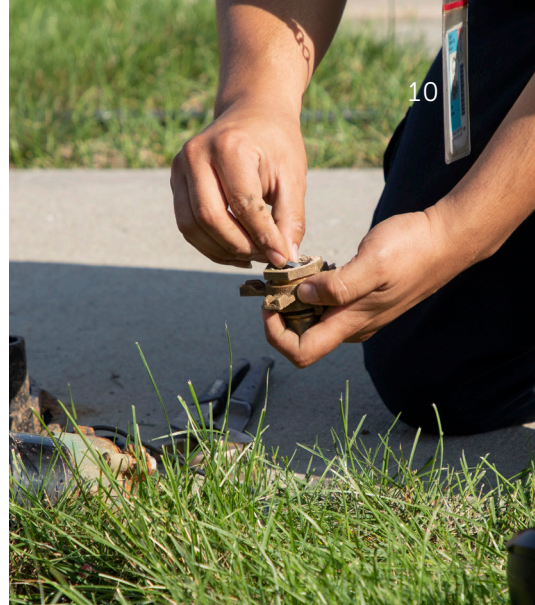
"I wanted "Then & Now" to give our residents a snapshot of what a city employee may do on a daily basis," Smith said. "Many of the things we perceive as simple like turning on the water and it coming out of the faucet, we take for granted. And by providing residents with solid, good information, it enables them to make better decisions as well. So, I will always try to deliver the best, most enlightened, creatively packaged, aesthetically beautiful information within my purview for the residents of Kansas City."

Recently, Damon interviewed Patrick Gruetze, Meter Services Supervisor with KC Water Services. The water department is responsible for reading and maintaining more than 100,000 meters across the City. Nearly 20 years ago, WSD installed a

new automatic meter reading (AMR) system that reads water meters automatically. Data collectors were installed citywide to read the data that the meters sent from each account. The data is then sent to computers at the Water Department that can then calculate bills more quickly and more accurately.

"The AMR system not only gives us accurate water usage, it allows the Department to notify residents almost instantly of high water usage that may indicate a leak and it allows customers to access all their usage and billing information on-line," Patrick said.

To watch "Then and Now" go to the City's YouTube Channel at **[YOUTUBE.COM/KCMOCCO](https://www.youtube.com/KCMOCCO)**. Channel 2 is available live, along with many City meetings. You can also watch a variety of other city videos on demand.



New KCMO animal shelter is welcome upgrade for pets

WRITTEN BY: *John Baccala*

PHOTO BY: *Karen Lim*

Kansas City, Missouri, animal lovers are sure to be smiling when the city's new animal shelter starts welcoming our four-legged residents. A formal ribbon-cutting date for the new facility inside Swope Park hadn't been set by press time, but all progress points toward opening the \$26 million state-of-the-art complex by the end of 2019.

The 54,000 square-foot building replaces the city's rundown animal shelter - a series of construction trailers - off Raytown Road near the Truman Sports Complex. The city's shelter has been there for as long as the Chiefs and the Royals have played nearby and has needed an upgrade for quite some time.

Animal control is managed by KCMO's Neighborhoods and Housing Services Department, but the City has a contract with Kansas City Pet Project (KCPP) to operate the animal shelter. With more than 10,000 animals a year coming in, the current facility often has KCPP staffers scrambling just to get by.

"We had to take all of our progressive, lifesaving programs and basically right-size them, given the space required to save the number of pets that come to the shelter," said Tori Fugate, KCPP's chief communications officer. "We have plans for new programs as well that we can't do in the current facility due to space."

**"We really focused
on the animals and
their needs and gave
them a shelter this
city deserves. We want
this to be a campus for
animal lovers."**

/ TORI FUGATE

CHIEF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER,
KANSAS CITY PET PROJECT

The new building features separate housing according to species, a very modern veterinary clinic, an education pavilion, outdoor 'play yards' for the dogs and 'catios' (think patio) for the cats, a retail store and a coffee shop. There's even a livestock shelter because, well, an occasional cow or two has been known to drop by. Construction costs for the \$26 million shelter is paid for primarily through GO KC (\$18 million) with the remainder

coming from private donations.

"This shelter will be unlike any other in the country," Fugate said. "We really focused on the animals and their needs and gave them a shelter this city deserves. We want this to be a campus for animal lovers. People can adopt here, hold their events here, host their birthday parties here and utilize all of our programs and services."

Before one shovel of dirt was turned, city leaders, KCPP staff and Kansas City animal lovers did their homework, researching animal shelter facilities near and far to find the best fit for the city's furry friends. For Fugate, it was time well-spent.

"Our team went all over the country visiting shelters and we learned a lot from those tours," she said. "We took a lot of their cool features and brought them back with us."

"In our (KCPP's) opinion, we've really elevated what a 'next generation shelter' can be and we know a lot of people will want to come to Kansas City to see it and learn about what we've built here. Kansas City can have a shelter that will hold animals in a safer, humane and compassionate way."

For more information, visit **KCMO.GOV/PETS**. To report stray animals or possible abuse cases, contact 311 at 816-513-1313 or Police non-emergency at 816-234-5111 during after hours.





City studies best ways to safely scoot and e-bike around KCMO

WRITTEN BY:

Maggie Green

After scooters popped up in KCMO in 2018, we acted quickly to create a process to keep these two-wheelers on the ground. What started as an interim operating agreement with two companies in early fall 2018, turned into a yearlong pilot program supported by a competitive request for proposals and vendor selection process.

Our scooter and e-bike pilot launched in May 2019 with three companies who see electric scooters and electric bicycles as innovative ways to provide additional modes of transportation for residents and visitors. The goal also is to secure relevant data to make sure things are operating safely, smoothly, and serving all KCMO residents.

The pilot has other objectives, too:

- Streamline the permitting and licensing process for these types of companies.
Evaluate operations in fall and winter months, as well as during special events and emergency situations.
- Influence and prioritize where we need to build more infrastructure.

- Understand how scooters and e-bikes impact existing infrastructure.
- Establish a framework for rules and regulations for scooter and e-bike companies.

"Through our pilot program, we are learning, testing, and documenting best practices in scooter and e-bike deployment," Assistant City Manager Rick Usher said. "We see micro-mobility as a positive addition to the array of transportation opportunities in our City. We are having success in Kansas City because we have a cross-departmental team of City staff monitoring and managing our pilot program."

Just over a third of the way through the pilot, our staff is learning how scooters and e-bikes impact mobility in Kansas City. So far, the program has generated \$102,058 in fees (May-August 2019).

Additionally, we are collaborating with the companies on education, outreach and safety messaging. We are continuing evaluate the pilot and a survey we started in September received more than 900 responses that will help us better shape our

plans for the future. Meanwhile, we'll continue to find creative ways to address challenges, such as parking. So far, we've added on-street parking hubs at two locations to provide dedicated space for scooters and e-bikes.

Scooter & e-bike safety tips:

RIDE IN THE STREETS

- Use existing bike infrastructure where available
- Do not ride on sidewalks

WEAR A HELMET

- Helmets are encouraged, not required

PARK PROPERLY

- Be mindful of ADA ramps, transit stops, and available space on the sidewalk
- Use designated on-street parking where available

For more information on scooters and e-bikes, visit **KCMO.GOV/SCOOTERS**.



Health Department promotes link to mental & physical well being

WRITTEN BY:

Michelle Pekarsky

Mental health experts will tell you that having a sense of belonging is a basic human need. If you don't feel part of a community, your mental health suffers, sometimes followed by declining physical health. The feeling of belonging comes when you feel safe enough in your community to speak up about concerns and feel seen and heard.

The Quality of Life Survey released in September by the Kansas City Health Commission is one way residents can be involved in shaping the actions of Kansas City leaders.

The survey is part of a process that the Health Department calls 'MAPP,' which stands for Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships.

At the health department, we want to ensure we're taking action and leading the charge on the greatest needs of the residents we serve.

There are 35 zip codes in Kansas City and within them, communities have their own special characteristics and needs. Because of that, it's important we get as many responses from each zip code to accurately reflect this diversity.

"We have set a lofty goal to double the number of surveys returned to us; the more voices, the better," said Brenda Kumm, M.S., Kansas City Health Commission co-chair. "We're eager to get the results and begin the work to set a course for a healthier Kansas City that we chart together."

The importance of the survey and MAPP process can't be understated. The last MAPP generated a powerful plan called the 'CHIP.' It's another acronym that stands for the Community Health Improvement Plan.

"The CHIP lays out a forceful case as it lists Kansas City's health priorities, making clear through data and surveys that Kansas City's unresolved race and class issues are hurting our community as a whole and causing glaring and disturbing life expectancy disparities between zip codes and races," said Dr. Rex Archer, Health Department director.

After the commission gets completed surveys, the next step is to prioritize issues. We're interested to hear what you as Kansas City residents will tell us this time, and what adjustments your answers may

mean to the new CHIP.

Some of the survey questions we want you to answer:

- Do you feel comfortable walking/ biking in your neighborhood?
- Do you believe your neighborhood has enough resources to take care of all older people who live there?
- Do you believe there are enough resources in your neighborhood to help all residents deal with stress?
- Have you experienced racial discrimination in your community?

We need your input! We urge all residents to take the Quality of Life Survey. To take the survey and for more information, visit **KCMO.GOV/QUALITYOFLIFESURVEY**.

We also have paper surveys available at the Health Department, 2400 Troost, Kansas City, Missouri.

KCMO Planning & Development upgrades public engagement

WRITTEN BY:
Beth Breitenstein

What do you think of when you hear the term “engagement?” Maybe the thought of marriage or an agreement to be somewhere at a certain time comes to mind. Well, when you hear it in the government setting, we want you to think about the ways you can get involved in the decisions that affect your lives.

That’s why our City Planning and Development Department worked with your community leaders to propose (not in the marriage way) a change to the way that projects are approved. As a result, a more resident-friendly ordinance was born. It requires neighborhood meetings be held before certain types of development projects are considered for approval by elected groups. The ordinance was effective Oct. 1, 2019.

The ordinance language specifies a meeting could be hosted by either the neighborhood association or the project applicant. Previously, staff could only encourage a public

meeting, but not require them. As a result, projects were frequently delayed at commission and council hearings due to neighborhood concerns.

Development Management Division Manager Joe Rexwinkle says community feedback sparked the change. “We were seeing a pattern of projects going before the City Plan Commission or Council with neighbors coming forward to testify about concerns with the project and indication they had no idea it was even happening, he said.”

The new neighborhood meeting requirement applies to any entity intending to apply for a special use permit, rezoning, preliminary plat, or development plan.

The Kansas City Neighborhood Advisory Council (KCNAC) is an advisory board to the governing bodies of the City of Kansas City, Missouri, on matters that affect neighborhood welfare. Rianna Deselich, former president of the KCNAC, says she is thrilled to see this code change. “I joined KCNAC about 10 years ago hoping to create a vehicle for neighborhoods to be informed of these life-changing projects before it was too late in the process. We joined up with city staff and got this done in about a year and a half and we are very pleased it was passed by council,” she says.

With the changes, applicants filing for a special use permit, rezoning, preliminary plat or development plan

must execute the following steps:

- Determine if the project property lies within a registered neighborhood or civic organization or organizations.
- Work with the neighborhood to set a date for a public meeting hosted by either the applicant or the neighborhood.
- Use a public notice form to send notification all property owners within 300 feet of the project property address and to the neighborhood association contact at least 10 days in advance of the meeting.
- After the meeting is held, send the sign in sheet of attendees and a meeting summary to city staff

If engagement matters to you, get involved with your neighborhood association. Find your neighborhood group information at **KCMO.GOV/NEIGHBORHOODGROUPS**. It is important that you make sure your neighborhood associations are registered with the city so project applicants have the correct and current contact information to reach out to set up meetings with neighborhoods.

For more opportunities to give your input during city decision making, look for the Speak Easy logo or check the event calendar at **KCMO.GOV/SPEAKEASY**.

THE
KCMO RESIDENT
SPEAK
EASY
SESSIONS

BECAUSE BEING
HEARD
SHOULDN'T BE
HARD

EXPLORE SPEAK EASY OPPORTUNITIES:
KCMO.GOV/SPEAKEASY





So, what's a fellow anyway?

WRITTEN BY: *Ruanda McFerren*

PHOTO BY: *Karen Lim*

Every June two shiny new faces join our KCMO staff. We call them Cookingham-Noll Management Fellows. You might wonder “what is a Fellow anyway?” Or maybe “why do they hire two new people every year?”

Our two-year management fellowship is named for the late L.P. Cookingham, who came to Kansas City in 1940 and totally reformed the City’s government after the scandalous Pendergast era. Serving as City Manager until 1959, Cookingham’s innovative approach to public administration set the national standard for progressive governance. In order to train future public managers, Cookingham established this Fellowship to give new graduates direct access to the inner workings of a large city government. Richard (Rich) Noll was a Cookingham Fellow in 1983 and went on to become an Assistant City Manager in 1995.

After his unexpected death in 2010, the Fellowship was renamed in his honor.

Today, the fellowship offers recent graduates of Public Administration (or related) Master’s programs the opportunity to take a 360-degree tour of the city and discover how all of the City’s departments fit together. It is one of the oldest and best-known programs of its kind. Several former Fellows continue to work for the City.

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“Local government truly touches just about every aspect of a person’s life, and I would love to continue to give back to my community in this manner.”

/ AMIE YOUNG

COOKINGHAM-NOLL FELLOW

.....

Amie Young and Michael Gawlick are the current first-year Fellows who are carrying on this legacy.

Young, a graduate of the University of Kansas (B.A. in Political Science and International Relations; MPA), says she applied for the Fellowship because it has a “tried and true

history of grooming outstanding public servants.” While Young is just beginning her career as a city employee, she sees herself continuing to work in local government.

“Local government truly touches just about every aspect of a person’s life, and I would love to continue to give back to my community in this manner,” she said.

Michael Gawlick graduated from the University of Central Missouri (B.S. in History) and the University of Missouri – Columbia (MPA). Kansas City’s size and variety of services attracted Gawlick to this public service. He “finds it thrilling to be at the confluence of organizational dynamics, customer service, developing technology, and data.”

Like many residents, Gawlick said he was pleasantly surprised by the range of projects that the City simultaneously works on – a fact that ultimately inspired his application to the program.

“I never noticed how many cool initiatives are going on at this moment,” Gawlick said. “From the KC Streetcar extension to sustainable development, there is an abundance of activity happening around town.”



Building Your City

WATER | WRITTEN BY: *Michael Grimaldi*

Major KC Water Projects Aimed at Reducing the Impact of Flooding

The unusually rainy spring and summer served as a reminder that flooding can happen any time, often with dire consequences for property owners. Two KC Water capital improvements projects spotlight what the City is doing year-round to mitigate flood damage.

The City has acquired property and demolished three homes in the 6900 block of Liberty Street in the Northland. The area is in a flood-prone area along Line Creek and eligible for buyout and demolition in part with federal funding. The \$600,000 project means the land will be open space in perpetuity and available only for floodplain uses, such as a nature reserve or a park.

Separately, the final phase of the \$160 million Turkey Creek Flood Damage Reduction Project made progress this summer as workers bored a tunnel under railroad tracks near Southwest Boulevard.

KC Water, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas

City, Kansas, have built the project in 13 phases that began more than a decade ago. The last phase of the project channels hillside drainage from 31st Street and Roanoke Boulevard along with drainage from Southwest Boulevard and Eaton Street and directs it to Turkey Creek.

Turkey Creek flows through Kansas to the Kansas River. Previously, heavy rains would cause water to flow down Southwest Boulevard, flooding businesses and residences of both Kansas City, Kansas and Missouri. Strong partnerships and cooperation across city, county and state lines made the project possible, as well as support from the GO KC program.

In another initiative aimed at protecting lives and property from flooding, KC Water recently invited more than 500 owners of flood-prone properties to learn more about flood protection options, including flood insurance.

Little known fact: Most homeowner policies do not cover flooding, but flood insurance is available to any property owner in the City. If you believe stormwater threatens your home or business and would like more information, contact KC Water Stormwater Engineering at 816-513-0490 or water.floodquestions@kcmo.org.

In a separate capital improvement project aimed at improving the City's water infrastructure, crews began construction in September on

nearly six miles of water mains in the Waldo area of south Kansas City. The \$10 million project, one of the largest water main replacement projects currently under way, replaces pipes that are more than 100 years old in some cases. Included is replacement of both a transmission main and a distribution main under 75th Street and Wornall Road.

Transmission mains 16 inches in diameter and larger deliver water to and from pump stations and to distribution mains. Distribution mains take water into neighborhoods and are the pipes that connect to service lines that carry water into homes and businesses.

Engineers expect new pipes to last 100 years before replacement will be needed again.

AVIATION

Building a new KCI grinding toward LEED status

Now that the dust has settled on the demolition of Kansas City International Airport's Terminal A, the focus turns to the sorting, recycling and repurposing of more than 120,000 tons of dismantled concrete, steel and asphalt. By recycling over 98% of the materials produced from the former terminal structure and parking garage demolition, the KCI New Terminal Project has taken the first in a long series of important steps toward

achieving a LEED® Gold Standard. LEED®, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is the most widely-used green building rating system in the world and a globally recognized symbol of sustainable achievement. By forging the terminal using green building standards for design, construction, and operation, the new front door for Kansas City will be a sustainable facility that features both lower operating costs and a lower environmental impact.

Massive portions of Terminal A are being crushed into mountains of movable and reusable gravel. The smaller pieces of the former building are being used around the airport property on new roadway projects and as fill on the new terminal site. At the same time, work is ongoing to cut approximately 2,700 tons of rebar and steel beams into small pieces for transport to recycling facilities.

For updates on the New Terminal Project's sustainability efforts and ongoing progress, visit buildkci.com and follow Build KCI on Facebook and Twitter.



PARKS | WRITTEN BY: *Heidi Markle*

Construction is underway for the Maplewoods Parkway Project in the Northland - a major project that's sure to improve the look and feel of the area for many years to come.

Currently, North Woodland from NE 96th Street to Shoal Creek Parkway is an unimproved, two-lane roadway. No bicycle and pedestrian facilities are available along this corridor, which has become known for accidents. North Woodland Avenue serves one high school and several elementary schools, and the North Kansas City School District makes over 2,000 bus trips on this substandard corridor. The hills make it difficult to see in multiple intersections and the four-way stops create annoying travel delays.

The Maplewoods Parkway project will upgrade this segment of North Woodland Avenue to a two-lane parkway. The roadway will initially be reconstructed with one through lane in each direction separated by a raised, green median and will include provisions for widening to two lanes in each direction as traffic volumes increase. Proposed improvements include storm drainage systems, roadway lighting, sidewalks, a multi-use path, on-street bike lanes, raised green medians, and landscaping. The intersections at NE 96th Street, NE 100th Street/New Mark Drive, NE 106th Street, and Shoal Creek Parkway will be reconstructed as roundabouts to improve traffic safety and traffic flow.

City Council District 1 and Council District 2 each provided \$2 million in-district PIAC funding toward this project. This \$4 million PIAC funding, combined with the \$6 million federal grant and funds from the GO KC infrastructure program,

provided necessary funding for this important project, which is expected to be completed by fall 2021.

PUBLIC WORKS | WRITTEN BY:

Maggie Green

Tracking Public Works projects

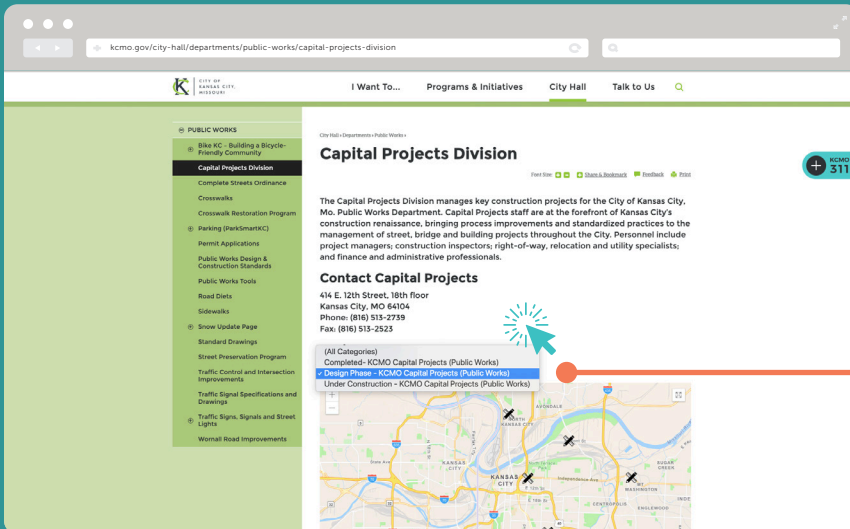
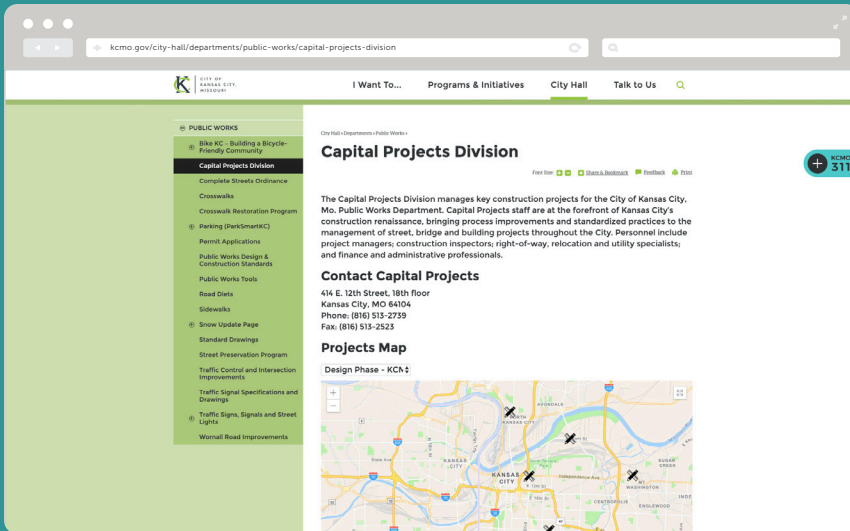
With the launch of the new kcmo.gov, Public Works created a new way to view project details and track progress. With over 50 projects in various stages, a project inventory is an important way to keep you up-to-date with the latest information.

- To get started, visit **KCMO.GOV/PROJECTTRACKER**
- The projects map contains filters for projects in design, under construction or completed. Hover over a project for a quick snapshot.
- The projects list allows you to scroll and click on a project in your neighborhood to learn more.
- Each project profile contains valuable information about the stage of the project, a description of the scope, any pertinent traffic impacts, a project timeline, public engagement opportunities and project manager contact information.

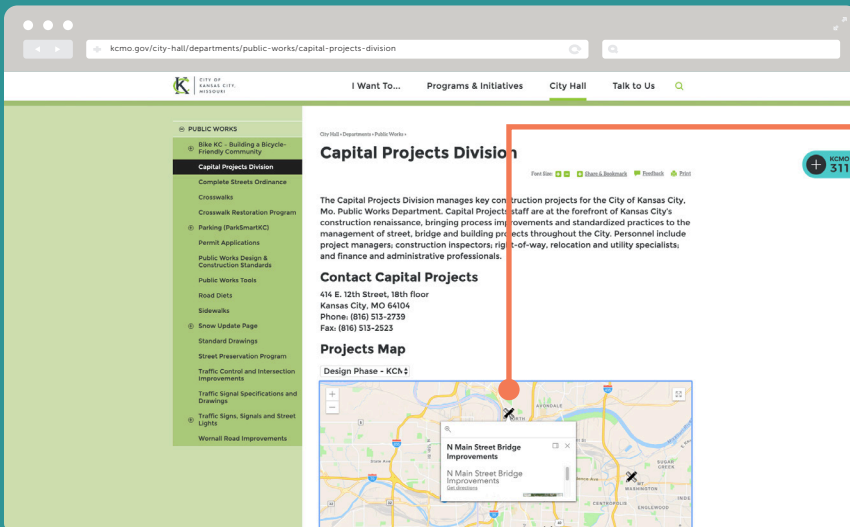
Public Works is continuing to add projects to this webpage as they come online and as information is available from other department projects across the city.

How to track Public Works projects

VISIT
**KCMO.GOV/
PROJECTTRACKER**



SELECT A CATEGORY



CLICK ON A PROJECT ICON
TO LEARN MORE!

New kcmo.gov wins praise for looks and brains

WRITTEN BY:
Rod Richardson

Our new website is not only being noted for its sleek, eye-catching design, but also for the smart, crisp functionality that makes it easier to navigate.

All in all, the new **KCMO.GOV** is delivering on the promise to provide an enhanced digital experience that pairs the best technology with practical applications that also make it more accessible for people with disabilities.

With more than 1.3 million unique visitors served annually, it makes sense to offer a site that gives the people

what they want – re-designed web pages that are easier to read and optimized for mobile devices.

A sample of the positive emails include:

- "I love, love the new City website! Kudos to your team!!!
- "Just a quick note to tell you and the team that I LOVE the website."

This is our first revamp of the website in about five years, so the timing was right to move forward. "We know this is what people wanted us to do

because we asked them for their input and that's what they said," City Manager Troy Schulte said.

Notable changes to **KCMO.GOV** include:

- Easier access to 311
- Clear organization
- Comprehensive calendar
- Your Resource Lookup
- Plain language
- New menus

TRASH PICK-UP HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

If a holiday falls during the week, trash and recycling collection takes place on the day following the holiday, and collection for the remaining days of the week also takes place one day later than usual. Friday trash is collected on Saturday during such weeks.

NO COLLECTION OCCURS ON THE FOLLOWING 2019 HOLIDAYS:

VETERANS DAY

11 NOV

THANKSGIVING DAY + DAY AFTER

28 +
29 NOV

CHRISTMAS

(Visit kcmo.gov/trash for no-tag schedule)

25 DEC

Your City Resources

ONLINE at [KCMO.GOV](https://kcmo.gov)

Type your topic in the search bar or visit:

[KCMO.GOV/NEWS](https://kcmo.gov/news)

Read recent City news releases

[KCMO.GOV/SUBSCRIBE](https://kcmo.gov/subscribe)

Sign up for City newsletters

[KCMO.GOV/SOCIAL](https://kcmo.gov/social)

Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Youtube

[KCMO.GOV/ALERTKC](https://kcmo.gov/alertkc)

Sign up for free community messages on your mobile phone or email

[KCMO.GOV/CAREERS](https://kcmo.gov/careers)

Search and apply for job openings in City government

[KCMO.GOV/BIZCARE](https://kcmo.gov/bizcare)

Learn how to start up a business and obtain licenses and permits

[KCMO.GOV/KCMORE](https://kcmo.gov/kcmore)

Read past issues of this magazine

[KCMO.GOV/COMPASSKC](https://kcmo.gov/compasskc)

Use the City's permitting system

311 CALL CENTER

Call 311 or 816-513-1313 or visit kcmo.gov/311 for general questions and service requests

ANIMAL SHELTER

Call 311 or 816-513-9821

CHANNEL 2

Watch kcmo.gov/channel2 for live coverage of City Council, weekly City news and special events

MUNICIPAL COURT TICKETS

Visit kcmo.gov/court to learn about the many ways you can look up a case or call 816-513-2700

TOW LOT

Search for a towed vehicle at autoreturn.com or call 816-513-0670

RECYCLING AND TRASH

Call 311 or visit kcmo.gov/trash

KC WATER

Call 311 or 816-513-0567 or email water.customerservice@kcmo.org



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Kansas City, Missouri 64106

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*****ECRWSSSEDDM*****

Postal Customer

LEAF AND BRUSH

Set-out Dates

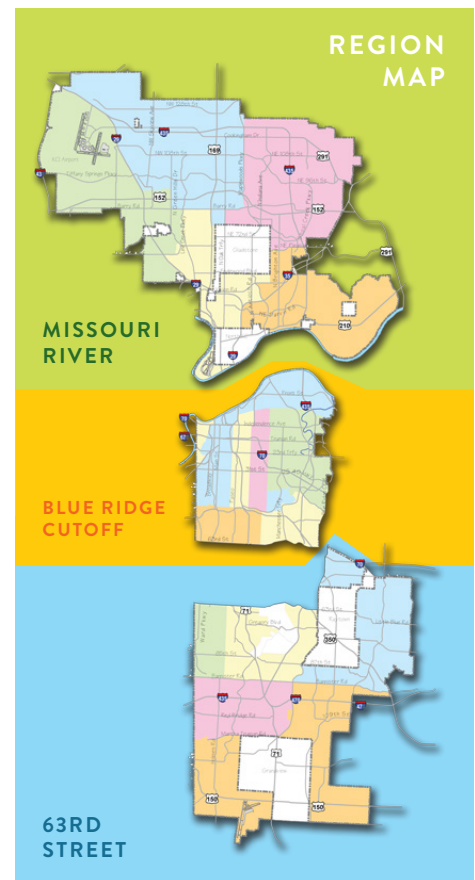
SET OUT ALL SACKS AND BUNDLES BY 7 A.M.

Trash day	NORTH REGION	CENTRAL REGION	SOUTH REGION
MONDAY	Monday, Nov. 4	Monday, Dec. 2	Monday, Nov. 18
TUESDAY	Tuesday, Nov. 5	Tuesday, Dec. 3	Tuesday, Nov. 19
WEDNESDAY	Wednesday, Nov. 6	Wednesday, Dec. 4	Wednesday, Nov. 20
THURSDAY	Thursday, Nov. 7	Thursday, Dec. 5	Thursday, Nov. 21
FRIDAY	Friday, Nov. 8	Friday, Dec. 6	Friday, Nov. 22

CURBSIDE COLLECTION

- ▶ Same day as trash/recycling collection
- ▶ Curbside by 7 a.m.
- ▶ Limit of 20 sacks and/or bundles
- ▶ Paper sacks only.
- ▶ Brush bundled 4' x 2' with twine only
- ▶ No duct tape
- ▶ No trash
- ▶ Call 311 within 24 hours to report a miss.

FALL + WINTER 2019



KCWATER.US/PROGRAMS/LEAF-BRUSH